

A detailed black and white illustration of a woman standing in profile, facing right. She is wearing a long, flowing dress with a fringed hem and a shawl draped over her shoulders. Her hair is long and dark. The illustration is signed 'REISTLE' near her feet.

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

NORTHWEST
Colorado.



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HISTORY.

“ Whence came these legends and traditions?
With the odors of the forest,
With the perfumes of the valley,
With the curling smoke of wigwams,
With the song of peaceful rivers.

“ From the mountain, moor and fen-land,
From the lodges of the beaver,
From the hoof-prints of the bison,
From the eyrie of the eagle,
From the portals of the sunset.”

AT the eastern end of Routt County in North-west Colorado, where the Great Divide in its majestic trend across the continent, subsides to an elevation some distance below timber line, then into undulating foot-hills and gentle valleys, at the great bend of the beautiful Yampa (Bear) River and at an elevation of 6,500 feet, are situated **STEAMBOAT SPRINGS** and the town by that name. The history of this region very soon enters the fragmentary confines of unwritten tales and then vanishes into fable. Civilization, in its westward progress toward the Golden Gate, passed north, south and around it, leaving unmolested to the dominion of the Indians, animals and birds, these streams, valleys and forests. Practically this primitive life and condition existed until about 1835, when were noticed the hand-prints of the ubiquitous and invincible Jesuit missionary. Just out of view at the right-hand edge of the picture of the town of Steamboat Springs, at the foot of a giant cottonwood he built his adobe hut. Some of the blocks of this structure to this day show the shape of his fingers where they were grasped to be placed in position. The ruins of the house are yet to be seen beside the dead and prostrate form of the old tree. Both of which will be carefully preserved as long as human vision can distinguish their outlines.

Here was the interior, the holy of holies of the Ute kingdom. The enemies of this clan of aborigines, to reach it must conquer many natural difficulties, must cross the American Alps. Nature, in fact, to a great extent, fought their battles and vanquished their foes. Finally, however, a few years subsequent to 1835, a mighty host of Cheyennes and Arapahoes, under the leadership, it is said, of a white chieftain, crossed the mountains and advanced upon this place, where at that time was concentrated a large part of the Ute nation. For days the sanguinary conflict raged. Over the surface, and slightly buried in the

soft soil are found in great numbers, symmetrically fashioned arrow heads of chalcedony and brown jasper, strewn here, most, if not all of them, as a sequence of that tragic episode. A small flat-topped eminence of a few acres in extent, situated a half mile westerly from the Pavilion Spring, and skirted by a grove of fine old cottonwoods, is said to have been the culminating point of the battle. Arrow and spear points are here found in such quantities that it is called "Arrow Head Mesa." So fierce and fatal, was this meeting, to the three tribes involved, that from that time they have been shy of each other and loth to begin war.

THE CAVE.

Surrounded by several of the important springs of this group is a cave of singular interest. The floor of the cavern has an incline of about 10° or 15° from a horizontal. From this mysterious abyss comes forth gases and vapors that are fatal to life until diluted with the air. Standing at the mouth you can look in to a point where suffocation and death would ensue. The Indian regarded this as the threshold to the lower regions, the abiding place of an enraged evil spirit, whose only mission was to breathe torture and death to all who entered. From the trapper, missionary and Indian, have been gathered many tales connected with this spot. One whose authenticity is unquestioned is that it was the place of execution of the Ute Indian who was condemned to death by the grand council of his tribe upon confirmation of sentence by the head chief, the condemned, guarded by six armed warriors, each having his right hand painted blood red, was conducted to the mouth of this breathing monster, where the palms of his hands were placed together over his head, and his wrists bound by a cord some forty feet long, which was made by four strands of the sinews of a young bison braided together. At the word of command he began quickly to descend. If he refused, or faltered, each guard shot into his body a poisoned arrow which caused death in the utmost agony.

Historically and practically it is true, that up to two decades ago, so far as the white man knew of this immediate part of the west

"It was only the vale of Tawasentha
The green and silent valley."

TOWN OF STEAMBOAT SPRINGS.

PLATTED by, and upon the lands of the Steamboat Springs Company, is a thriving place, with a bank, flouring mill, hotels, churches, fine schools, the Denison public library, and all other necessary lines of business. An Academic school under Congregational auspices, and through the efforts of the Rev. Wallace Gunn, a graduate of Yale, is being founded, making this, assuredly, the educational center of North-west Colorado. This will be on the line of the Continental railway, that will diminish the distance from Denver to Salt Lake 150 miles, and to San Francisco 300 miles. Here are **over 100 mineral springs, having a combined discharge of not less than 2,000 gallons per minute**, representing about every temperature and every water having a high medicinal value, to be found in the United States. As to climate, the wide world knows what that means in Colorado. All pulmonary patients who come here announce that they get more benefit from a summer's visit here than any place along the 40th parallel. Attractions for the tourist and sportsman are unequalled in the temperate zone. The river and valley at this point have a scenic attraction beyond description. Nature, in its plan, seems to have been in love with this spot, gracing it with a romantic and incomparable beauty, and in order that man might ornament and finish in accordance therewith, laid down, within the limits of the town, beds of white, highly crystalized sandstone, marble, and a pearly onyx, of a quality superior, by far, to any other similar production in Colorado, or elsewhere. These fine stones are not only to build this town, but to add to the architectural beauty and strength of Denver, and other cities. For the ladies, and in the interest of floriculture, will state that all about on the hills, single, and in groups, large and perfect, grows the Columbine, the dream of the flower kingdom; also, a variety of Flower-de-luce "dwelling by the meadow brook." Occupying, geographically, a position about central as between Denver and Salt Lake, upon the greatest railway route that is to traverse the central portion of the Continent, surrounded by exhaustless factors of wealth, in the way of coal, oil, natural gas, mines, stock and agriculture, a very few years will demonstrate how modest is the remark, that as a watering place, both curative and fashionable, it will bring to Colorado more fame than it has yet acquired by virtue, all other such places combined. It will be the commercial center of all that country, and in all respects a place that every citizen of the State will be proud to mention and claim.



TOWN OF STEAMBOAT SPRINGS.



TOWN OF STEAMBOAT SPRINGS.

MINERAL SPRINGS.

AT this point, the basin of the river seems to be the dividing line between the granite rocks on the east side, and the sedimentary on the west side. The scientist will observe, that at this contact of the old geological world with the new, these numerous and varied springs are produced. Here is a study, and a demonstration of what marvels nature can perform. The ancient Greek might have proclaimed that it was all caused by the lovely Proserpine, who was granted permission by her Lord Pluto, to render some great service to her kith and kin on top of earth. So she smote with her staff the walls of a great cavern, and there went up to bless mankind, for all ages, these perpetual fountains. At least, some mystic power has wrought well, for here, and within a few feet of each other, are springs, not only of different temperature, but of different and most delicately mixed mineral constituents. Surely the health or pleasure seeker, or the worn-out mental and business worker, will have to go far and wide before finding a spot presenting so many things useful and interesting. Excepting the glaubersalt waters of Carlsbad and Hunyadi, the invalid who has been directed to use mineral waters, or thermal baths, will find in this group, nearly, if not quite, every water known to have a potent value. He will not have to come here for one kind, and then pass on to some other place for another. Alkaline, saline-alkaline, iron, sulphur, magnesian, in all their various and wonderful combinations, are here, besides numerous non-mineral springs and limpid streams, large and small, flowing over granite only, from their sources, delivering water as pure and soft as that from the clouds, caught in a porcelain basin. Rheumatism, gout, scrofula, liver, kidney, dyspepsia, the virulent blood disorders, the anaemical diseases, and **all diseases having their origin in an excess of uric acid in the blood**, can bring here their myriad sufferers, and the analyses, together with actual experience, will indicate the spring from which each shall drink. Please note this great fact, that the waters of this group contain an unusually small amount of lime. There are two springs of the Kissengen-saline type, of which animals are excessively fond. A horse never allows himself to cross the rivulets that flow away from them without a prodigious draught; cattle come for miles; deer and elk take great risk to get this water. To this day,

deer will come down through the pine grove which borders these springs, and can often be seen at early dawn, within gunshot of the houses, seeking a drink. A domesticated elk long had the habit of going to these springs in the early morning, for the double purpose of getting the water, and to meet his wild brethren of the woods. Near the last mentioned springs is one that is sure to play an important *role* in a curative way. In its mineral components, it strongly resembles the Kreuznacher, in Rhenish, Prussia, a powerful remedy in scrofulous affections, inflammations of the bones, and ulcerations of the intestinal organs. The temerature of this spring permits its shipment, and as it is not found on any other part of the Continent, its introduction will be followed by an increasing demand wherever used.

The necessary brevity of this pamphlet is such as to permit an individual notice of only a few of the prominent springs, which now follows.





FOOT-BRIDGE OPPOSITE STEAMBOAT SPRINGS.

STEAMBOAT SPRING.

All the following analyses made by the Colorado State School of Mines:

ANALYSIS.		TEMPERATURE 86° F.
Chloride of Sodium . . .	14.62	grains in one pint.
Sulphate " Potassa . . .	0.61	
" " Magnesia	0.85	
" " Lime	1.57	
Carbonate " Soda	5.48	
Phosphoric Acid	Trace	
Silicic Acid	"	
Iron Oxide	"	
Total solids	23.13	
Hydrosulphuric acid gas	0.14	cu. inches.
Carbonic " "	0.90	" "

THIS spring is situated just out of view, to the right, in the accompanying picture of the foot-bridge. It bursts out, in irregular gushes, from a ragged orifice in the solid "rock in place." The quantity of carbonic acid gas is so great and is sent up from its subteranean place of production under such pressure as to eject the water through the outer aperture with almost an explosive violence. The interesting phenomenon here witnessed, is the water coming forth, not in a continuous flow, but in pulsations accompanied by a puffing sound, resembling that made by the exhaust pipes of a steamboat as it approaches the wharf. This peculiar feature, which gives to this spring and the town their name, is probably due in part to the pressure and partly to the tortuous windings and vacuous cavities that the water traverses in its passage to the surface. The analysis shows an alkaline-saline water so rich in carbonic acid gas that no counterpart is to be found in any land. This water will be bottled without the aid of machinery, otherwise than an iron pipe, the natural pressure doing all the work.

BUBBLING SPRING.

ANALYSIS.		TEMPERATURE 75° F.
Sulphate of Lime	49.81	parts in 100,000.
" " Potassa	27.30	
" " Soda	16.11	
Chloride " Magnesia	14.50	
" " Sodium	193.13	
Bicarbonate Soda	423.41	
" Iron	0.39	
" Manganese	0.35	
Total solids		727.62

THE present appearance of this wonderful spring is a pool about fifteen feet in diameter and several feet in depth. It is located near the north bank of the Yampa river, at the west end of the town. Its surface rolls and tumbles in constant and violent ebullition, hissing and crackling as though a great furnace were somewhere beneath. The observer is impressed and fascinated by the strange spectacle, realizes that in all his wanderings, has never beheld the like unto it; lingers by and returns day after day, to view its incessant turbulence. The motive power of all this commotion is not heat, but comes from far down in the earth's primitive depths; is the escape, under high pressure, of great volumes of carbonic acid gas, sulphuretted hydrogen and various other gases. At times the pungency of these gas odors is so great that the bather finds it necessary to step for a moment from their midst into the natural air. Aside from the analysis, which indicates a bicarbonate water without a rival, this spring has already established its therapeutic value. It is the idol of its patients. Especially do the rheumatics love to stand by and tell how they came here, crippled, suffering and reduced to the last stages of helplessness, point to their now supple joints, free from pain, enjoying robust general health, and declare "that spring did it," never losing an opportunity to pour into all ears that will listen, a song of its marvelous virtues. Even the Ute Indians' laconic reference to it is, "Sta Wano," (good very). Gout, rheumatism, scrofula, cutaneous diseases and blood poison here find relief and cure. The effect of sulphuretted and carburetted hydrogen gases is to powerfully excite every function of the skin and to very quickly restore it to a normal condition.

PURPLE SPRING.

ANALYSIS.		TEMPERATURE 77° F.
Sulphate of Lime	41.84	parts in 100,000.
“ “ Potassa	27.15	
“ “ Soda	27.37	
Chloride “ Sodium	216.83	
“ “ Magnesium	13.06	
Bicarbonate of Soda	452.18	
“ “ Iron	0.76	
“ “ Manganese	0.35	
Total solids		782.36

THIS spring is so named from a peculiarity not yet explained by the chemist. Its water varies in color from a slight to a distinct purple. Another curious feature it has of periodically emitting sulphuretted hydrogen. It has a local reputation of being highly purgative. The flow is ample, accompanied by an abundance of carbonic acid gas. The analysis shows a water of rare value, both for drinking and bathing, containing a small amount of lime and so rich in **sulphur** that there is an abundant precipitation of this mineral in the brook that runs away. One of the results of bathing in this water, is, the skin of the person who is otherwise in reasonable health becomes soft and smooth. No artificial sulphur bath will attain, so perfectly, such an end. This, if anything, will restore a harsh, dry, and muddy skin, to a normal state, and with the aid of the variously graded iron waters near by, remove the splotchy yellow, and replace with the clear color and damask bloom. It is a safe prophecy, that every country, and class, will send here thousands of devotees who will bow down in appreciation of its unexceptionable merit.



PAVILION SPRING.

PAVILION SPRING.

ANALYSIS.		TEMPERATURE 58° F.
Chloride of Sodium	. . . . .	38.01 parts in 100,000.
“ “ Magnesia	. . . . .	20.42
“ “ Potassium	. . . . .	9.16
Bicarbonate of Soda	. . . . .	202.45
“ “ Lime	. . . . .	73.84
“ “ Iron	. . . . .	0.50
Silica	. . . . .	2.88
Total solids		347.26

THE analysis here indicates a chalybeate water, which, if judged by taste and effect, has no superior in the world. Its mineral constituents are so consistently mixed and modified, that it can be, and is constantly and daily used. Dr. Denison, a well-known and eminent physician of Denver, and also a learned writer on the “Mineral Waters of Colorado,” calls attention to this delicious and valuable water, and to the great quantity that can be assimilated by the drinker. It is sparkling and highly effervescent, from the large quantity of carbonic acid gas contained. It requires a strong effort of the will to abandon the use of this water, and it is destined to be used in all parts of the civilized world. It is an active remedy where there is a surplus of acid, or catarrhal condition of the digestive canal. There is a sensation of vigor, or exhilaration, follows the drinking of this water. It is a natural champagne, perhaps superior in the richness and delicacy of its taste to Giesshubler or Apollinaris.

HERON SPRING.

ANALYSIS	TEMPERATURE 74° F.
Chloride of Sodium	7.59 grains in one pint.
Carbonate of Iron	2.79
Sulphate of Lime	5.23
“ “ Magnesia	2.97
“ “ Soda	2.84
“ “ Potassa	0.81
Silicic acid	0.51
Phosphoric acid	Trace
Manganese Oxide	“
Hydro-Sulphuric Acid Gas . . .	0.05 cubic inches.
Carbonic Acid Gas	0.69
Total solids	22.74

THE local name of these springs, have, for convenience, been adopted in this pamphlet. They are accidental, and, in some cases, amusing. This one grew out of the following incident: Years ago, Mrs. Crawford the wife of one of the owners, came into possession of a young heron. By the time he was grown was perfectly domesticated. It was his habit, when the mornings were cold, to go down early to this spring on a long, swinging trot; would plunge the whole of his long, thin legs into the warm water, and enjoy the grateful temperature until the sun was well up. He would accompany his mistress to the church door on Sabbath mornings, and recognized visitors by tapping with his long beak on the front window. Thus it was that “Heron” spring came into history. This is also a chalybeate water, sparkling, effervescent, emitting a large amount of carbonic acid gas, flowing a larger quantity than any other such spring in the world, superior in every respect to even Pyrmont and St. Morets, of Germany, for bath and drinking purposes.

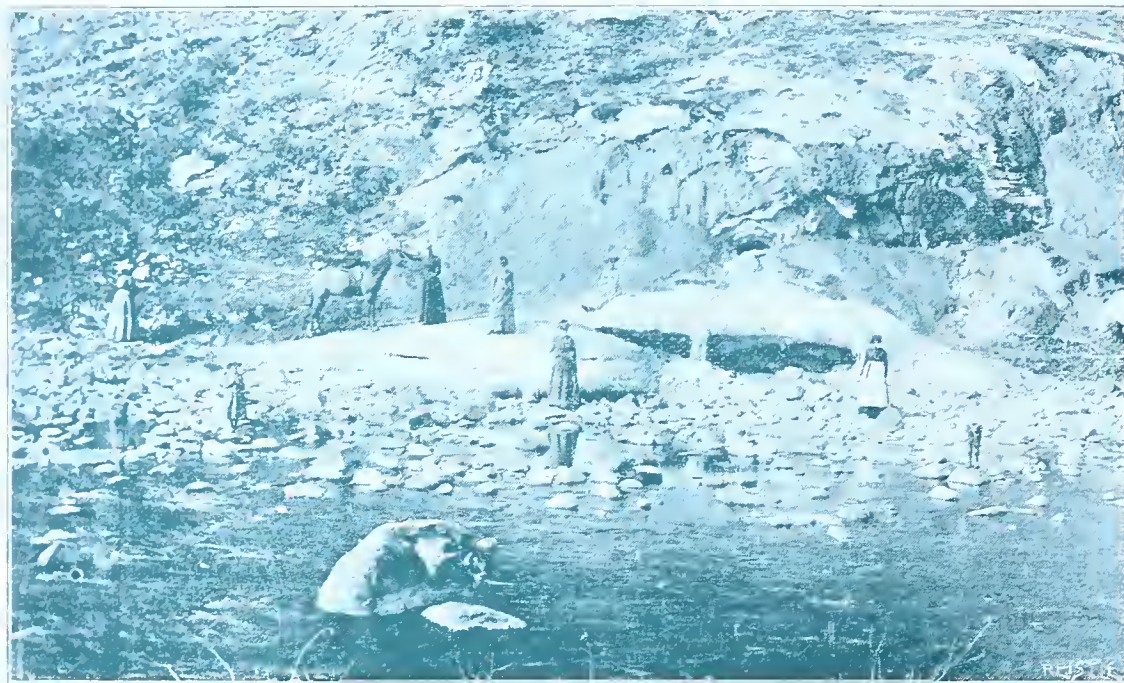
BIG HOT SPRING.

THIS remarkable creation is situated several miles from Steamboat, and at an increased elevation of about 300 feet, discharging through a fissure in the granite rock not less than 400 gallons per minute, having a temperature of 150° F. Eggs are soft-boiled in the most perfect manner, tea steeped, game and fish cooked, and various other culinary performances are accomplished by this naturally heated water. This water is to be carried down in pipes, under a great pressure, and used in connection with those of the main group, making an incomparable quantity of high temperature mineral water. Dead snakes are often seen along the edges of the flow, having been actually cooked by accidentally getting into the water, or attempting to cross the hot brook. The line of contact between the granite rocks and the sedimentary is near by, also an out-crop of eruptive rocks in the vicinity, which reveals, to some extent, the origin, or cause, of such highly heated water. This water is soft, containing little or no lime, evidently pursues its course through granite only from the natural laboratory that heats it.

BATH SPRING.

ANALYSIS		TEMPERATURE, 103° F.
Carbonate of Lime	1.71	grains in one pint.
Sulphate " Soda	0.69	
Sulphate " Magnesia	0.76	
Sulphuric Acid	0.07	
Silicic "	2.79	
Phosphoric "	Trace	
Potassa	Trace	
Alumina	Trace	

THE name and temperature of this spring indicates external use. Whoever is fortunate enough to bathe here once, longs to return, and is tempted to linger in the luxurious pool beyond the prescribed time. No Roman, even in the days of the opulent splendor of the Caesar's, ever enjoyed a luxury equal to this. The discharge is about 225 gallons per minute, equal to two-thirds of the total amount discharged by the entire group at Hot Springs, Arkansas.



BITTER SPRING.

BITTER SPRING.

ANALYSIS.		TEMPERATURE 73° F.
Bicarbonate of Soda	554.65	parts in 100,000.
“ “ Iron	1.79	
Chloride “ Magnesium	11.84	
“ “ Potassium	17.89	
“ “ Sodium	201.77	
Sulphate “ Lime	39.17	
“ “ Potassa	5.16	
Silica	2.68	
Total solids		734.95

A BITTER, pungent taste, more pronounced in this than any other of this group, has fixed its name, resembling somewhat the great “Bubbler” in its chemical aspect. The increased “bitter” being due to the predominance of the powerful alkalies. Attention is called to the fact that the solid matter of this spring is greater than in any other. The picture on the opposite page will convey some idea of the delightful spot which nature selected to produce this spring. From a miniature cavern the crystal rivulet, together with the odor of various gases, comes forth into the outer world, making in its brief flight a splashing little cataract as it plunges over a low precipice into the Yampa.



ELK HERD IN THE YAMPA HIGHLANDS.

The difficult, and almost unknown, feat of photographing wild animals in their native haunts was accomplished in the above picture by Mr. A. G. Wallahan during the fall of 1892 in the open lands north-west of Steamboat Springs. About fifty of these interesting creatures are here represented.

MINES, COAL, OIL, &c.

A FEW miles below **STEAMBOAT SPRINGS** begins the coal system of the Yampa Valley, the greatest west of Pennsylvania, so declare eminent geologists. Anthracite, bituminous, semi-bituminous and lignite coals, all of the best quality. Veins from two to fifteen feet in thickness are here. Twelve miles below **STEAMBOAT**, where the system has been turned to a vertical position, twenty separate and distinct veins of coal are visible. A few miles from this point, crude oil is running out of the ground but cannot be utilized until the advent of a railroad.

Stock raising is and will be an important industry of this country, due to the abundant and superior grasses. Owing to so many superior natural advantages the fame of the **dairy** products of this locality will become national. All kinds of vegetables and cereals attain a perfection hardly met with elsewhere. Farming is and will be a solid industry of this part of north-west Colorado.

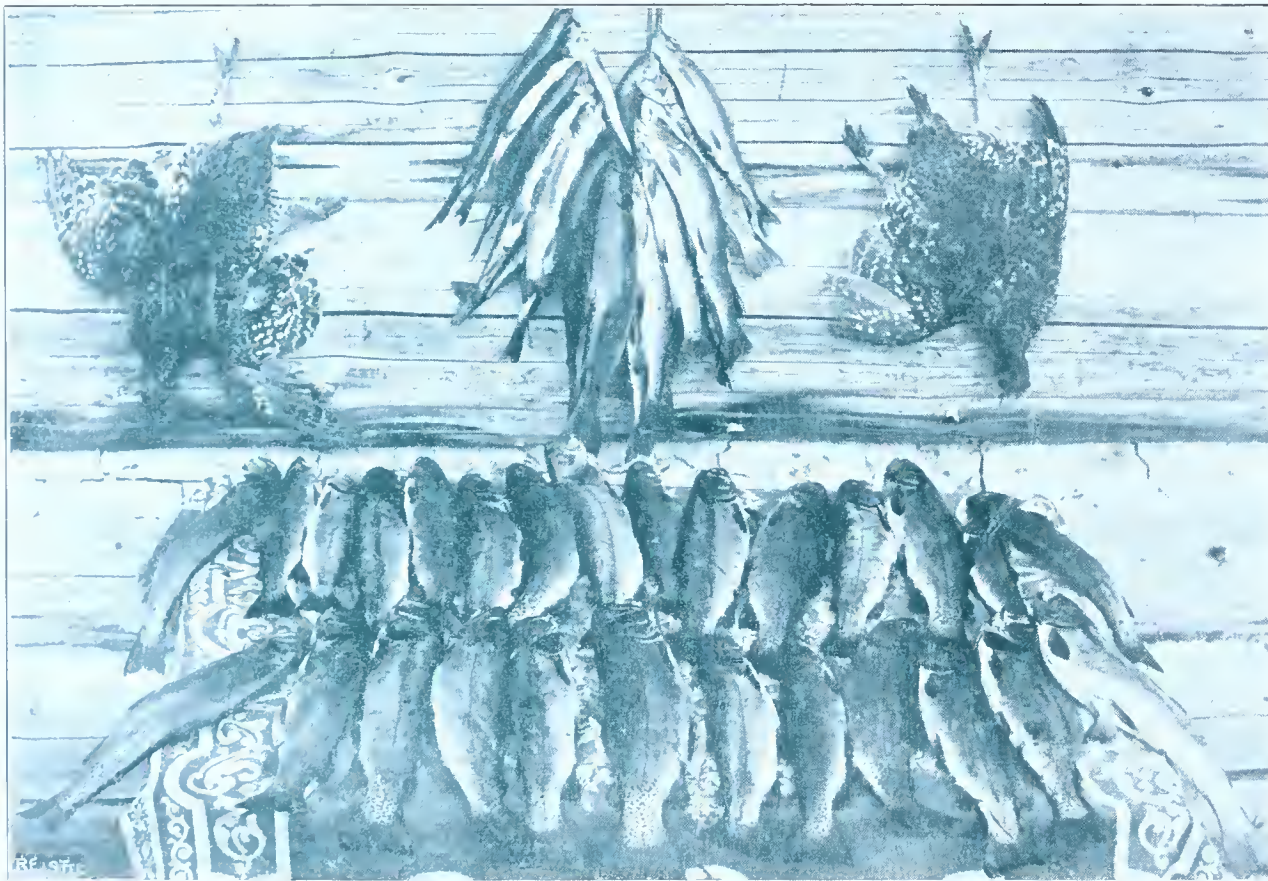
The Placer mines of the Hahn's Peak and Four Mile are famous for their richness. High grade Galena ores will be shipped to Denver smelters from this region. It would take many pages of this little book to give even a passing notice of the foregoing resources capable of sustaining and really requiring, a dense population, they wait the coming of the hand and mind of man to build them into royal industries and make their impression on the commercial affairs of Colorado and the business world.



ELK HUNTING, SIX MILES FROM STEAMBOAT SPRINGS.

GAME AND FISH.

THE White River Plateau Reservation is a region lying just south-west of Steamboat, embracing an area of some 1,600 square miles, ranging in elevation from 7,000 to 10,000 feet above sea level, and representing one of the greatest wildernesses in the temperate zone of the United States. It is, and has always been, the natural home of game. Both animal and fowl retire to this magnificent solitude to rear their young. Under the strong surveillance of the General Government, perfect protection is afforded them during the process of propagation, hence the adjacent region will be indefinitely supplied with unequaled attractions in this way. All the country about Steamboat is overlaid with a deep, rich, loamy soil, which grows most perfectly the serviceberry. For this reason it is the natural abiding place of the brown, black and cinnamon bear. No where in Colorado are they found so numerous. Mountain lion, the fierce puma, lynx, fox, black, gray, and coyote wolves, badger, porcupine, mink, martin, beaver and otter exist here in greater numbers than any other part of the West. The elk and deer, as they retired from the encroaching presence of the miner and farmer, sought these wilds as their last rendezvous, prior to final disappearance. However, under the protecting auspices of the State and United States, it will be many years before there is a visible decrease in their numbers. Wild geese, duck, the black, pinnated, and willow grouse and sage hens fill the streams, lakes and woods upon every hand. Beautiful and many are the streams of this locality. Innumerable trout, white fish and grayling are found therein. Now, if there is a civilized land to be found where the sportsman can find satisfaction complete, it is here, and without contending with typhus and swamp fevers. A former Indian trader, who is now a prominent citizen of Denver, informed the writer, that twenty years ago he secured 1,500 fox pelts in one purchase at Steamboat Springs, caught in that neighborhood by a band of Ute Indians.



AN AFTERNOON'S WORK ON THE YAMPA, NEAR STEAMBOAT SPRINGS.

FROM DENVER TO STEAMBOAT SPRINGS.

THE morning train from Denver *via* the Denver and Rio Grande Railway, will convey the tourist through the grandest part of the Rocky Mountains, arriving about the first twilight at Wolcott.

Early next morning he mounts one of Whipple and Shaw's four-horse stages and begins the eighty mile ride to **STEAMBOAT SPRINGS**, up a long gently ascending valley, down, down a winding roadway to the long bridge over the Grand River, then up again and along rolling hills covered with cedar and pine to McCoys, at Rock Creek and dinner. After this refreshing event, another gradual ascent for miles to the divide, the south crest of Egeria Park, whence the waters of the Yampa have their source, and begin their march to the Pacific. Supper, and over night at Montgomery's, fifty miles from the railroad station. The road is now defined by a continuous lane, enclosing fields, meadows, herds of fine cattle and other stock. Comfortable farm houses, with an air of prosperity about them, are seen upon either hand. Beyond, to the east and west, stretch long lines of dark, dense forests. This is a delightful ride. Safe drivers, good meals and beds add greatly to the pleasure of the journey. In the afternoon of the second day **STEAMBOAT** is reached.

Please give, or send, this to a friend
who has not seen the . . .

● ROCKY MOUNTAINS.